

Tony Mayr  
639 N 39 St  
Belleville, IL 62226

Wendy R. Dixon  
EIS Project Manager M.S. 010  
Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Management  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization  
Box 30307  
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89036-0307

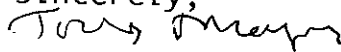
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Dear Ms Dixon,

- 1... [Moving all of the nuclear waste from the 75 different sites contaminated by nuclear power plants around the county to one big nuclear dump in Yucca Mountain, Nevada is an incredibly stupid idea. Canisters of spent fuel rods will be shipped through major cities of the country like St Louis by railroad and by truck.]
  - 2 [These fuel rods, which are a million times more radioactive when they come out of the reactors than when they went in, will be shipped by train and truck in canisters that are only designed for collisions of up to 30 m.p.h. The canisters, which repeatedly leaked in crash and fire tests, will each hold the equivalent of 200 Hiroshima bombs. U.S. nuclear reactors currently have 85,000 metric tons of irradiated fuel. Movement of this material would require approximately. 15,000 shipments, an average of one shipment per day for thirty years. The hub of these shipments would be St. Louis and Kansas city and the majority of these shipments would pass through central Illinois.] We just had a bunch of railroad cars derail and spill coal over here in Belleville, just imagine that these cars had contained nuclear waste.
  - 3 Despite their best effort, [every stop along the way and every time the waste is handled would cause some contamination. An expert from a firm that deals with cleaning up disasters said at a public meeting in St. Louis that homes within a 1/4 mile of the tracks would receive a dose of radiation comparable to leaving an x-ray machine on night and day for thirty years.] Please just leave the stuff where it is for now.
- 1 cont.

Sincerely,  
  
Tony Mayr